



Kevin Sidlar -
Grand prize win-
ner! Presented by
Axel Rehfuhs

**2022
LARC
Christmas Dinner**



Eric Todd VE3XET giving safety tips



Prize winners

Thank You, Thank You and Thanks Again!

The organizing team of the December 9th LARC Christmas Dinner would like to thank all that participated.

It was nice to gather as a group again and the turnout was fantastic (short of a couple empty seats, we filled the room).

Note to Self: look for a slightly bigger location for next time.... we may have outgrown this one a bit. Nevertheless, all that attended by themselves or as a couple seemed to have had an enjoyable evening. Brandon VE3OTV re-played some of the LARC YouTube videos, it was nice to rewatch, while we weren't under the time constraint of a meeting. Randy VA3OJ and Eric VE3XET also did a fantastic job giving us a brief explanation of SSTV (Slow Scan Television) and some first aid treatments that could be helpful in your ham shack.

This was followed with some prizes being drawn in exchange for some donations to the LARC Technical Committee, which amounted to just over \$500. Prizes included, Yaesu 2M radio, MFJ Antenna Tuner, 2 x \$50 GC for Real Canadian Superstore, Boston Pizza (Arthur St.) Pizza Coupons, 2 x The Eagles Concert at the Community Auditorium, Tools package, Smoke Detectors, First Aid kit, various sports clothes (from J&J Sports), along with more prize packages. A BIG THANK YOU, goes out to J&J Sports, The Community Auditorium, The Chronicle Journal, The Real Canadian Superstore, and numerous other donors that wished to stay anonymous.

73 de Dinner Organizing Team

Write up and photos by Brandon Rehfuhs

LARC SENATE

Robert Hansen VE3RVA
Dave Kimpton VE3AVS
Lindo Scalese VE3NHX
Terry Stewardson VA3LU
Ed Baumann VE3SNW

LARC EXECUTIVE

President Eric Todd VE3XET
Vice-President James St Cyr VE3OPD
Secretary Stephan Burns VE3SJB
Treasure Stephan Burns VE3SJB
Director Axel Rehfuhs VE3OPF
Director Wayne Letang VE3WRL
Director John Grandell VA3WJX
Director To be elected at next meeting

TBay Emergency Coordinator

Brad Harris VE3MXJ

ACS Amethyst District Emergency Coordinator

Warren Paulson, VE3FYN

CANWARN

VA3JMS John 767-3631

Public Service Events

VA3JMS John 767-3631

Accredited Examiners

VE3FAL Fred Lesnick 577-0789
flesnick@tbaytel.net
VE3VAI Lori Bedford (807) 630-7688
lbedford@tbaytel.net

2023

ABOUT US

The Lakehead Amateur Radio Club (LARC) is an incorporated not for profit group of amateur radio operators in the Thunder Bay area that meet for self education, community service and fellowship. . Our postal address is 1100C Memorial Ave. Suite 184, Thunder Bay, Ontario P7B 4A3. This newsletter is published monthly except for July and August by Ed Baumann VE3SNW and questions and submissions may be emailed to hqnewsletter@gmail.com

Amethyst District Auxiliary Communications Service Providing emergency communications for Northwestern Ontario

This is a list of the ACS frequencies in order of preference, number 1 being the first choice, if that frequency is in use or not working as in a repeater, then number 2 is the next choice, and so on,,,,,,,,,

VHF

1. 147.060- VE3YQT (MT.BALDY)
2. 147.390+ VE3BGA PL107.2 (LOCH LOMOND)
3. 146.820- VE3TBR PL107.2 (ST.JOSEPH HERITAGE)
4. SIMPLEX 146.520 > 146.580 > 146.550

HF

RAC ACS Canadian National Emergency Frequencies

1. 80M 3.675MHz LSB designated as ALPHA
2. 40M 7.135MHz LSB designated as BRAVO
3. 20M 14.135MHz USB designated as CHARLIE

Nets and Exercises

Wednesdays at 8 PM ET (2000hrs) 0000UTC on frequency 3.675MHz LSB (80 Metres)

We have four different net control operators across NWO. At the end of check in's we try and do some sort of exercise, winlink P2P, JS8 CALL, passing messages. Everyone is encouraged to check in, even if you are not an ACS or LARC member.

Minutes for the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club Executive Meeting

Date: December 1st, 2022

Meeting Start 18:59PM

Secretary's Report: Stephan VE3SJB

To be submitted to be printed in HI-Q

Treasurer's Report: Stephan VE3SJB

To be submitted to be printed in HI-Q

LARC Taxes & Corporate Reporting

Stephan VE3SJB has finishing touches to do on corporate reporting before submitting.

Corporate Seal has been located and will be arranged to get to the Secretary / Treasurer

General Meeting Presentations

Need to get some presentations lined up for the next few months

Stephan VE3SJB has been talking to Bill Meara N2CQR about setting up a date for his presentation

Eric VE3XET has talked to Jeff Cedarwall about a presentation on repeaters

Eric VE3XET has talked to Lakehead Search & Rescue and is looking into getting a presentation setup

Ed Kucbel has offered to do a presentation on moon bounce

Thunder Bay ACS (formerly known as ARES): Brad Harris VE3MXJ, T. Bay EC

Had annual SET exercise on November 19. Messages were able to be sent out effectively and

had a few stations locally participating in the exercise. Some issues at the fire hall were

discovered after RFI symptoms were reported.

Brad has spoken to Nicole Moffat via Zoom from the Thunder Bay Regional Hospital about the equipment located there.

Repeater News: Technical Committee

To be printed in Hi-Q

Public Service - John Sacek

Randy VA3OJ has not received any updates about the Sibley Loppet

Club Trailer

Motion #1 - Axel Rehfuhs "To defer all trailer reports until April 2023" Seconded by John

Plumbridge

Old Business

Eric VE3XET to call Glen Wallace about getting LARC involved with Lakehead Search & Rescue

December dinner meeting has been arranged and sign up form sent out. Door prize has also been purchased.

I.T. Department

Website - In progress

Google Account has been setup and files transferred to the account

LARC Treasurer's Report as of December 31, 2022

Chequing Account

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Opening Balance | \$6,326.96 |
|-----------------|------------|

| | |
|----------|--|
| Expenses | |
|----------|--|

| | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| Credit Union Service Fee | \$3.60 |
|--------------------------|--------|

| | |
|------------|---------|
| Cheque #27 | \$62.15 |
|------------|---------|

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Closing Balance | \$6,261.21 |
|-----------------|------------|

Not Deposited

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------|
| LARC Dinner Meeting Donations | \$510.00 |
|-------------------------------|----------|

Trailer Account

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Opening Balance | \$1,115.46 |
|-----------------|------------|

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Closing Balance | \$1,115.46 |
|-----------------|------------|

Short Term Deposit

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Opening Balance | \$2,087.87 |
|-----------------|------------|

| | |
|----------|--------|
| Interest | \$1.89 |
|----------|--------|

| | |
|-----------------|------------|
| Closing Balance | \$2,089.76 |
|-----------------|------------|

Stephan Burns VE#SJB

LARC Treasurer

January 2023 - Technical Committee Report

In attendance: VE3OPF, VE3FMT, VE3OPD, VA3OJ, VE3NHX, via zoom: VE3SJB, VA3LU, VA3WJX

Regrets: VE3XET

Start: 17:50

Repeater Updates

YQT: Received news from Dennis at CKPR that the tower has passed the 5-year inspection and that we have a home for the next 5 years. Bad news, the YQT repeater is working, but is having more antenna problems. It appears that the recent storms have caused the antenna to become non-functional. At this point the committee has decided to leave things the way they are and just get some quotes to see how much and when YQT can be fixed properly. (Replace Heliac with proper stand offs and replace the main antenna)

UPP: Working as it should with decent coverage.

BGA: The VHF repeater is working as it should, the issues of not properly identifying on UHF still has not been verified as the UHF side of the repeater is receiving very little use.

TBR: The MSR-2000 repeater is showing further gremlins. If it is not a bad connection, then it is giving us issues now with broken wires, this time the transmitter crystal decided to become disconnected and fell out. A motion was passed to purchase some new crystals for TBR, which will take about a month to get here. Randy has put a temporary repeater up at TBR, which sounds great and is working well for the time being. Thank you for all of your hard work Terry and Randy.

OTHER: A motion was tabled by Axel VE3OPF and seconded by John VE3FMT to have Terry purchase 2 new crystals for VE3TBR in abouts the \$120 mark. Passed

Old Business: Lindo and John P. are getting together to read and/or re-burn a chip from the old TBR controller. Terry tried the new chip and the software version was not compatible. Lindo will take the old TBR controller and wants to try to modify or replicate the old software version.

New Business: We are trying to find an old 286 or 386 computer (a slow one) with maybe windows 98 in order to set up a computer to program radios and possibly burn some chips. John P. has a TRS80 computer and monitor that we can use as a DOS computer for burning computer chips. Now, we just need an older/slower windows computer for programming some older radios.

Ongoing: The technical committee want to design and build some traps for some multiband wire antennas; this could be done in conjunction with the advanced ham radio class. The result would let newer hams have some multiband antennas as well as us having some available for field days or future expeditions.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 31, 2022 from 18:00 – 19:00 in person at VE3FRH or via zoom.

Meeting adjourned: 18:22

73 de VE3OPF

Changes to the RAC Field Organization Sections

Effective Jan 1, 2023

As previously reported, on May 25, 2022, the Board of Directors of Radio Amateurs of Canada approved changes to the RAC Field Organization which will take effect on January 1, 2023. The RAC Field Organization will be reorganized into the following sections:

Newfoundland and Labrador (NL), Nova Scotia (NS), Prince Edward Island (PE), New Brunswick (NB), Quebec (QC), Ontario East (ONE), Golden Horseshoe (GH) – currently called Greater Toronto Area (GTA), Ontario South (ONS), Ontario North (ONN), Manitoba (MB), Saskatchewan (SK), Alberta (AB), British Columbia (BC), Territories (TER) – Northwest Territories, Yukon and Nunavut will be combined into one section. The Maritime Section (MAR) will be abolished.

There will be **unintended consequences to contesters** and, in particular, to Field Day and three of the American Radio Relay League's Contests: the Sweepstakes CW, Sweepstakes SSB and the ARRL 160m contests. These changes do not affect any other ARRL contests or any other contests.

-- more information on the RAC website

Call for Amateur Radio Presentations - Ham Radio Expo

The QSO Today Virtual Ham Expo, returning on March 24th and 25th 2023, is calling for English language presentations. From the survey that we did after the last expo, we learned that we have excellent presentations that are enjoyed by older hams with many years in the hobby. However, from the same survey, it was not obvious that most of the presentations offered in the Expo could be applied to new licensees as well as the rest of us. The message that we want to convey for the next Expo is that any of the presentations regarding technology, rigs, operating modes, building projects, can be enjoyed by technician class licensees with a new ham radio license. The cheap Chinese handheld radio on the local repeater is one of many options available, and the goal of the next Expo is to demonstrate these opportunities to new licensees, and to make getting help to get on the air in any of these modes easy and fun.

for more info -
<https://www.qsotodayhamexpo.com/speakercall.html>

RAC Callsign Survey Results

In August and September 2022, Radio Amateurs of Canada conducted an online survey open to all Canadian Radio Amateurs. The survey focused on the policy related to call signs, but also covered some other matters.

Over 2,300 people participated from every province and territory of Canada.

The raw data from the survey has been compiled and is now available on the RAC website. Dr Frank Howell, K4FMH, volunteered his skills in survey methods and analysis to produce a report organizing your responses. Frank's analysis is also available on the RAC website in a PDF document.

And from the Web - a little morse saves the day
<https://www.dailypost.co.uk/news/north-wales-news/hero-asda-delivery-driver-saved-25718826>
Thanks Jan & Al

Looking for LARC Videos?

Backcountry Canoe Trip: <https://bit.ly/LARC-Backcountry-2022>

LARC Field Day: <https://bit.ly/LARC-FieldDay2022>

LARC Winter Field Day: <https://bit.ly/LARC-WinterFieldDay2022>

LARC Antenna Testing Event: <https://bit.ly/LARC-AntennaTesting2022>

Sun activity January 8: A new region is coming

Today's top news: Sun activity has reached moderate levels. AR3182 now harbors even more potential to produce an X-flare and there is a new sunspot contender coming into view. AR3182's magnetic complexity has increased to include a delta configuration, indicating that opposite types of the magnetic field in a sunspot (positive and negative) are mixed together and so more prone to erupt. And – just now coming into view – we now have a region not yet numbered that produced two M flares – an M1.2 and M1.4 – within 45 minutes of one another. The flares are most likely larger, because the body of the sun is partly blocking them from our view. This new spot adds to the excitement of the past few days, increasing the overall chances for significant flaring. Both M-class events caused minor radio blackouts over Africa. Stay tuned! It could get interesting.

Last 24 hours: Sun activity has picked up some, with two M flares and 19 C flares. The first M1.2 flare peaked at 9:06 UTC January 8 and the second M1.4 flare peaked at 9:50 UTC January 8. Both M-class flares, along with a few of the C-class events, came from a new unnumbered region just over the southeast limb (edge). The remaining C flares were from AR3182. The sun has five labeled sunspot regions. Next 24 hours: The forecast is for a 99% chance for C flares, a 60% chance for M flares, and a 25% chance for X flares.

Next expected CME: No CMEs were observed on available coronagraph imagery.

Current geomagnetic activity: Quiet. The geomagnetic field is expected to be mostly quiet to unsettled through January 10. Any activity we do see will be due to high-speed solar wind from a coronal hole.

ROBERT HANSEN VE3RVA SK

It is with sadness that the family announce the passing of Robert Walter Hansen on Sunday, December 18, 2022. Robert was born November 3, 1943 to Eva and Walter Hansen. Bob was an electrician and retired from Richardson Terminals in 1998. During his retirement he enjoyed traveling and being a handyman for the family. In the summer he loved going to camp and enjoying a beer on the deck. He also supported his grandchildren in their many activities.

He was an active member of the Lakehead Amateur Radio Club and the Northwestern Ontario Senior Radio Club VE3SAO at the 55 Plus Centre. He enjoyed talking to people around the world. His call sign was VE3RVA. Bob also volunteered at many local events.



He is survived by his wife Gail (nee Patola), daughter and son-in-law Trisha and Bob Chaykowski, proud papa to Abigail Vanderwater, Jacob and Ella Chaykowski, brother and sister-in-law Derrik Patola and Sarah Brown, niece Jen Patola and family. Predeceased by mother Eva, father Walter, mother and father-in-law Helen and William Patola, nephew and godson Kyle Patola and many other relatives and good friends. Cremation has taken place and there will be no service at this time. Interment will be held at a later date.

Bob was an important part of the LARC for many years and made many contributions to the club from being on the board of directors, being president, volunteering for events to mentoring younger hams. Bob loved every aspect of amateur radio and no effort was too large. Bob is going to be missed by all of us for a very, very long time. - Ed